Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /090 W

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O R 070736Z SEP 76 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8184 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL NEW DELHI 13102

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: CIEC, IN

SUBJ: SUGGESTION BY GOI HEAD OF DELEGATION - CIEC

- 1. IN DISCUSSION WITH ECONCOUNS, V.K. AHUJA, SECRETARY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MEA, AND HEAD OF INDIAN DELEGATION TO CIEX, SAID HE WOULD BE IN PARIS ON THE 9TH TO TALK WITH SOME INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS. HE WOULD PARTICIATE IN THE G-19 DISCUSSION ON THE 10TH AND 11TH AND THEN DEPART ON THE 12TH FOR MEXICO CITY. AMBASSADIR VAIDYA WOULD ATTEND REGULAR SESSION OF CIEC BEGINNING THE 13TH.
- 2. HE THOUGHTMOST COUNTRIES IN BOTH G-8 AND G-19 WANTED CIEC TALKS TO RESUME BUT HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE DCS HAD POLITICAL WILL TO SEE DISCUSSIONS DEVELOP BEYOUND THE TAKING STAGE.
- 3. AHUJA'S MAIN EMPHASIS IN DISCUSSION WAS ON FINDING SOME MEANS FOR TRANSFER OF RESOURCES MOR EQUITABLE TO LDCS. IN THIS REGARD HE OFFERED IDEA WHICH HE INSISTED WAS COMPLETELY HIS OWN AND WAS NOT OFFICIAL GOI OFFER. HE SUGGESTED THAT SOME MULTILATERAL ARRANGMENT TO CONVERT ALL OFFICIAL DEBTS DONOR COUNTRIES NOW HAVE WITH POORER LDCS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SOFT TERMS "ALONG LINES IDA" WOULD BE WORTH EXPLORING.

4. HIS ARGUMENTS WERE THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD PERMIT LONG-TERM PLANNING BY LDC'S VICE PRESENT ANNUAL RESCHEDULING EXERCISE. IT WOULD BE MUTILATERAL IN CONTEXT, AVOIDING INDIVIDUAL BILATERAL PROBLEMS (HE ESPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO INDIA'S PROBLEMS WITH THE PASSMAN/LONG COMMITTEE). IT WOULD ALSO AVOID STIGMA OF DEBT FORGIVENESS WHICH INDIA, WITH ITS RECROD OF PROMPT REPAYMENTS, DID NOT WANT. ECONCOUNS PROMISED RELAY IDEA TO DEPARTMENT UNOFFICIALLY AND INFORM AHUJA OF REACTION.

5. WE ARE NOT AWARE IF SUCH AN IDEA HAS BEEN FLOATED BEFORE AND, IF SO, WHAT USG REACTION WAS. WE FIND IT INTERESTING HERE BECAUSE IT IS PRESUMABLY BEING AUTHORED BY AHUJA WHO, IN LAST DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY, SEEMED TO TAKE STRONG UNCOMPROMISING STANCE IN SUPPORT OF G-19 POSTIONS IN CIEC. THAT HE IS NOW SUGGESTING ANY COMPROMISE IS IN OUR VIEW WORTH ENCOURAGING.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO AHUJA'S SUGGESTION. SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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